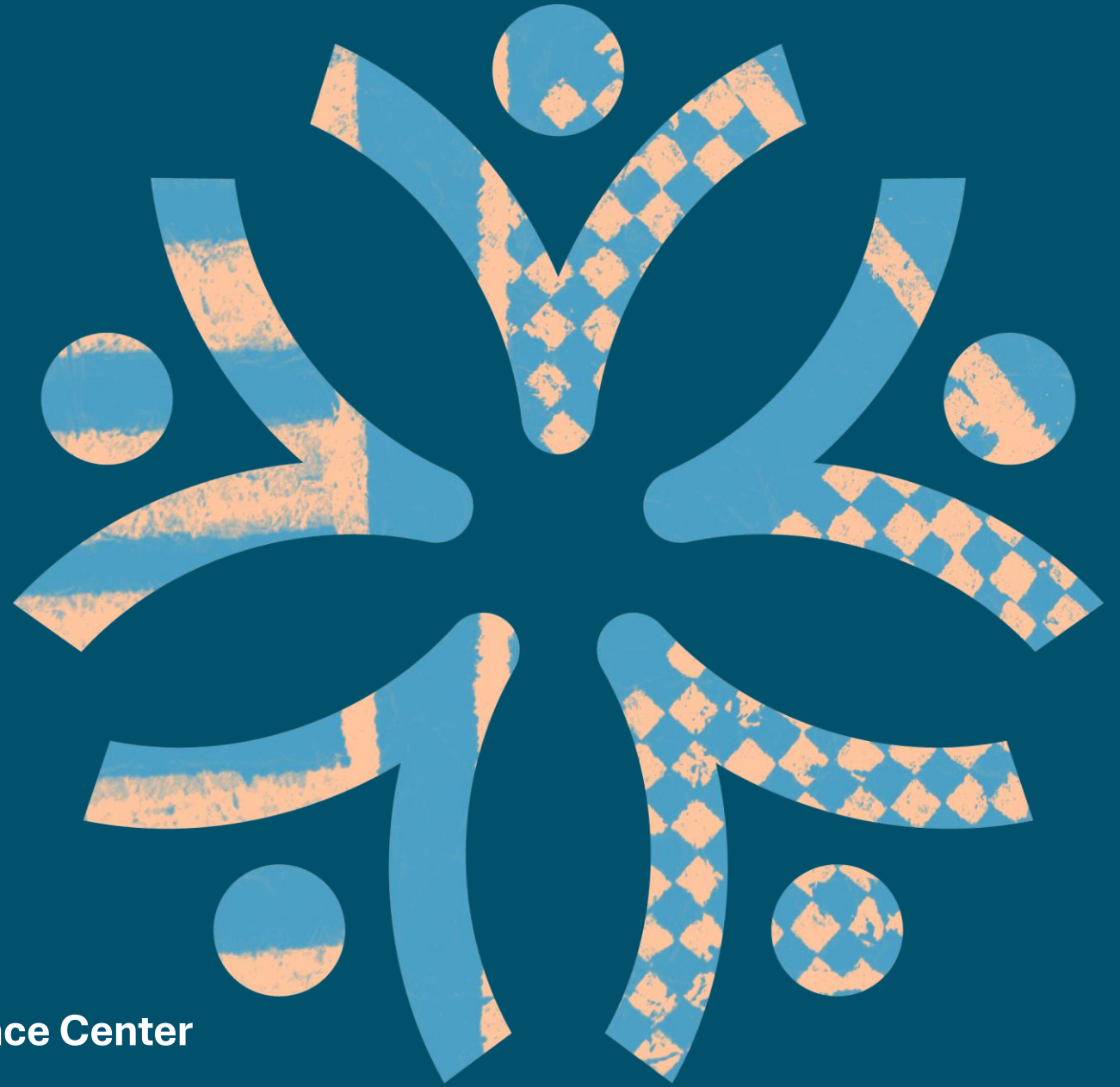


Hawai'i  
Community  
Foundation

# Hawaiian Islands Environmental Finance Center (HIEFC)



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# Hawai'i Community Foundation

- Statewide community foundation established in 1916
- 3,510 grants and contracts awarded for \$136M in 2025
- ~90 staff on O'ahu, Hawai'i Island, Kaua'i, and Maui





# Hawai‘i Fresh Water Initiative

Create **100mgd** of additional, reliable fresh water supply



**CONSERVE**

40+ million gallons  
per day by 2030



**RECHARGE**

30+ million gallons  
per day by 2030



**REUSE**

30+ million gallons  
per day by 2030



# 2021 Bipartisan Infrastructure Law

invests more than **\$50 billion** through EPA's water infrastructure programs

- **\$20+ billion for safe drinking water**
- **\$15 billion in dedicated funding to replace lead pipes**
- **\$12+ billion to ensure clean water for communities**
- **\$1.8 billion to protect regional waters**
- **\$135 million for additional water improvements**



# HIEFC Goals



## Facilitate Funding for Water Infrastructure

- Identify organization/community water priorities, research funding opportunities, assist organizations with grant applications.

## Build a Sustainable Water Workforce

- Assess water workforce gaps, develop models for career pathways, assist with workforce growth and professional development. *Partnerships with UHERO, UH-WRRC, and USDN.*

## Encourage Innovation in Sustainability and Equity

- Promote projects that emphasize water conservation, recharge, and reuse. Ensure projects encompass sustainability and resilience. Prioritize actionable plans for equity in disadvantaged communities.



## Water Technical Assistance

- Needs assessment and recommendations
- Capacity building and training
- Project development and planning
- Application preparation and federal registrations
- Grant management





## Workforce Development

- Partner with USDN
- Assess water agency hiring challenges
- Design fellowship program with agencies
- Recruit fellows
- Provide training and support services to fellows and agencies





## UH Career Pathways

- Assessment of water agency needs
- Evaluation of UH pathways
- Development of training models
- Refinement of UH skills pathways





# Awards to Date

## Earmarks or Congressionally-Directed Spending

- **FY 2023**
  - **County of Hawai‘i – Large Water Meter Replacement, \$80,000 (Schatz, Hirono)**
  - **City & County of Honolulu – Green Stormwater Infrastructure, \$679,000 (Schatz, Hirono)**
  - **County of Maui – Recycled Wastewater Distribution, \$600,000 (Schatz)**
- **FY 2024**
  - **C&C of Honolulu ENV – Planning and Design for water recycling at O‘ahu Regional Park, \$800,000 (Schatz/Hirono)**
  - **County of Hawai‘i – Watershed Restoration for Aquifer Recharge, \$1,000,000 (Schatz/Hirono)**
  - **Commission on Water Resource Management – Deep Monitoring Wells, Leak Detection, Derelict Wells, \$4,319,514 (Schatz/Hirono/Case/Tokuda)**

## Competitive Grants

- **U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, WaterSMART: Title XVI Congressionally Authorized Water Reclamation and Reuse Projects – \$1 million for County of Maui, Lahaina**
- **U.S. Environmental Protection Agency – Hawai‘i Community Foundation, Fresh Water Initiative – \$3.2 million over five years, Hawai‘i Islands Environmental Finance Center**
- **U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, WaterSMART: Cooperative Watershed Management Program – Mauna Kea Watershed Alliance - \$300,000**
- **U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, WaterSMART: Water Strategy Grant – ‘Āina Ho‘okupu o Kīlauea - \$400,000**
- **U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, WaterSMART: Title XVI Congressionally Authorized Water Reclamation and Reuse Projects – \$15.6 million for County of Maui, Lahaina**



# HIEFC Contact Info

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